



Archdiocese of Birmingham

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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17th March 2020

Dear Parent

March is dedicated to St Joseph

Happy St Patricks Day!



During these days, we could do worse than to invoke St Patrick, who it is claimed eradicated snakes from Ireland. We have modern 'snakes' that need eradicating – so please, let us all pray!



St Joseph – Thursday, 19th March

It is the feast day of St Joseph on Thursday and a Solemnity – we will attend the midday mass with some of our children to honour this great Saint.

Covid-19:

You should have received a letter yesterday outlining our current position and the measures we have taken so far.

With the news updating daily, it is very difficult for us to know how or what will happen going forward.

The Prime Minister advised 14 days of self-isolation for those who believe that may be infected and outlined those who may be vulnerable to keep out of public contact.

ALL adults have a right to exercise their own discretion in these matters and this includes staff of our school. To that end, should we be in a position where a number of staff are absent, I may have no other option than to close the school to those classes. However, should pupil numbers be few, combining class groups may be possible. I am not prepared, however, to place remaining staff in the burdensome position of teaching classes of 40 or more – this would add an unacceptable pressure on an already pressured situation.

We do have a small number of staff who fit the description of those who fall into the “vulnerable groups”. Towards the end of this week, we may be faced with asking these staff to refrain from working in school. This will almost certainly result in classes not coming into school for days at a time.

These are difficult and uncertain times and if we all support each other as a Christian family, all will be well!

I want to thank those parents who have provided soaps and wipes – your goodness is uplifting!

WE HAVE A COVID-19 INFORMATION TAB ON OUR WEBSITE WHERE ALL LATEST UPDATES WILL BE POSTED.

A thought for us all to reflect on this Lent...

If you desire faith, then you have faith enough.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning

Third week of Lent



Contacting the School Office

Mrs Shepherd has been inundated with parents asking for advice about whether children should be in school or not. Please do not place this burden on her – she is not in a position to give advice and the only advice we can give as a school is that you should follow Government guidance. YOU must make your own decisions. Thank you for your understanding.

INSET DAY- 1st June 2020

Our fifth INSET day has now been booked for **1st June 2020**. Please note, this day the school will be closed to the children.

Congratulations!

... to Fr John who has been ordained to the priesthood for 50 years – we are so, so blessed to have him as our chaplain and parish priest. May God bless him and his ministry for MANY years to come.

The God who Speaks to us...

“I am the way, the truth and the life.”

Yours sincerely,

H M Cusack

H M Cusack
Headteacher